

TREE and SHRUB Intern

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area

Students Helping Restore Unique Biomes (SHRUB) and Teens Restoring Endangered Ecosystems (TREE) programs of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area are educational programs designed for elementary and middle school students. The SHRUB and TREE Intern will assist with both programs which take place on Thursdays and some Saturdays at Rancho Sierra Vista-Satwiwa in Newbury Park. Interns will assist with logistics, site preparation and maintenance, hands-on lessons, and student supervision.

The 5th grade SHRUB program involves 60-70 students visiting the park every month to restore a ¼ acre plot of land. Students also participate in natural history lessons, 1-hour hikes, and are trained to develop and present programs related to their year-long study. The TREE program for middle school students also focuses on hands-on habitat restoration work in the park and plant propagation activities at the school's plant nursery. Leadership activities, science-based lessons and birding activities are also woven into the curriculum.

Duties

- Assist or lead TREE or SHRUB lessons for up to 30-35 students
- Prepare and maintain restoration sites
- Assist in nursery operations, including seed collection and propagation
- Develop educational materials and activities (Optional)

Requirements

- Background in biology, botany, ecology, or education is beneficial.
- Current college enrollment or recent graduation from college.
- Interest in restoration ecology and education.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Minimum 16 hours/week; additional hours may be available. Work schedule is flexible. However, must be available on Thursdays from 8:00 am – 1:30 pm to assist with scheduled school program.
- Housing is not available.
- Must provide own transportation to restoration site in Newbury Park, CA.
- Valid driver's license and good driving record is required to drive a government vehicle. Full and part-time interns are eligible for transportation reimbursement of \$20 for each eight hours worked.
- Intern is needed immediately from September 2008 to June 2009.

Work Site and Conditions

- Programs will take place at Rancho Sierra Vista-Satwiwa or at the schools in Newbury Park.

- Position can involve strenuous field work including motorized augering and brush-cutting, digging, and carrying equipment/supplies weighing up to 25 lbs. Interns must be in good physical condition.

To apply, please send letter of application, resume, three references, and unofficial transcript by e-mail to: sheila_braden@nps.gov, or postal mail to: Sheila Braden, National Park Service, 401 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360. For further information, contact Sheila Braden.